



## PATRIOTISM'S DAY.

## WOMEN HAVE DONE FOR THE GOOD OF NATIONS.

Byron's Eulogy Fully Borne Out by History—Nancy Hart and Her Place in History—The Romance of Priscilla.

Upon this glad day, when stories of patriotism and sacrifice shall be retold, when memories of the laurel-crowned soldier and statesman shall stir every loyal heart, it is but fitting that time and space should be given in commemoration of that reserve force, without which history would have lost the savor "whereof the whole earth is salted," the women patriots of our dear land.

That women have always been patriotic no one will deny. Most of us recall with what emotion we were wont to follow in

the eyes of doubting, speculative mankind stand revealed as the same loyal, patriotic, dear old woman of his dreams and traditions.

**NANCY HART.**  
This woman remarkable for her patriotism and courage resided in Ellipt county, Ga. The following sketch in substance

from an early edition of the *Yorkville (S. C.) Courier* is characteristic of her history. In altitude, Mrs. Hart was a Patagonian, and remarkably well-proportioned and muscular. In a word she was "lusty and stout." Marked by nature with prominent features, circumstances and accident added, perhaps, not a little to her peculiarities.

She was horribly cross-eyed, as well as cross-grained; but nevertheless she was a sharpshooter. Nothing was more common than to see her in full pursuit of the bounding stag. The huge antlers that hung round her cabin or upheld her trusty gun gave proof of her skill in gunnery. The clouds of war gathered and burst with a dreadful explosion on her state. Nancy's spirit rose with the loudest. She declared and proved herself a friend to her country, ready to do or die.

All accused of Whiskey had to hide or swing. The ill-favored Mr. Hart was not the first to seek safety in the caberlogs with his neighbors. They kept up a howling, skulking kind of life, occasionally calling forth in a part of prelatory style. The Tories at length gave Mrs. Hart a call, and in true soldier manner ordered a repast. Nancy soon had the necessary materials for a good feast spread before them. The smoking venison, the hasty hoe cake and the fresh honey comb were sufficient to have provoked the appetite of a gorged epicure. They simultaneously attacked their food, and in a few minutes the table was cleared. As thought, the dauntless Nancy seized one of the guns, cocked it, and declared she would blow out the brains of the first mortal that offered to rise or taste a mouthful. They all knew her character too well to imagine she would say one thing and do another.

"Go," said she to one of her sons, "and tell the Whigs that I have taken six base balls, and use your authority to hasten the evacuation of this city by your troops, for among your incarcerated bellies the scarlet fever must rage furiously till you depart."

"I should be glad to grant your request," replied the major, "were I not fearful that if they were freed from their present martyrdom, a worse one would follow and they would suffer a prolonged attack of blue devils."

**THE ROMANCE OF PRISCILLA.**  
There are not wanting sticklers for facts who, while holding that Mr. Longfellow in his "Courtship of Miles Standish" constructed a highly poetical romance of colonial days, assert that at the same time he made some very poor history.

In a delightful little book, "Three Heroines of New England," the author, Harriet Stafford, says: "The incidents of real occurrence and the traditions of real descent concerning the courtship of Priscilla are very few. We know that Rose Standish died; that Captain John Alden, who repudiated her, was a Quaker; that Mr. Mullins presently did die; that Captain Standish married elsewhere, and that John eventually married Priscilla. "These are the bare facts. All the rest is coloring and conjecture."

Yet one has the right to surround these facts with all the possibilities of emotion alike in any age and with any people, which go to the making of romance and poetry, and which will continue to do so as long as hearts beat, lips tremble and souls desire companionship. If through the mist of long centuries we see these simple hearted pilgrims idealized

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**TO THE FIRST LADY IN THE LAND.**  
O, Martha, with thy modest air,  
Thy smile demure,  
Thy woman's crown of snowy hair,  
Thy brow so pure,

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